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six months of uninterrupted sunlight followed by a period of six months of uninterrupted darkness—an understanding which is far from the truth.

A few errors which are typographic, or slips of the pen, may be noted. Thus Lianas (p. 219) are not "aërial roots," but vines. Iron mountain is located (p. 92) in the northeastern part of Missouri. Ouachita is said (p. 93) to be pronounced "Wichitaw" (instead of Washitaw), etc.

All these are minor matters, and since they are mentioned it should be added that in view of the limitations of space imposed on the author it would have been difficult to have prepared a more acceptable book. It is so thoroughly readable and reliable that it ought to have wide use. The maps are Bartholomew's and are excellent. S.

The Cyclones of the Far East. By Rev. José Algué, S. J., Director of the Philippine Weather Bureau, Manila Observatory. Department of the Interior, Weather Bureau. Second (revised) Edition. 4to. Manila, 1904. Pp. 283, Pls. LIV, Figs. 6.

The work of the Manila Observatory was begun under the auspices of the Jesuit Fathers in the year 1865. The first storm warnings were issued by Father Faura in 1879. The meteorological investigations carried out at this Observatory have since become known all over the world, and now that the Philippine Weather Bureau has been established (1901) under the American Philippine Commission, the work is rapidly being extended and improved. Although active along many lines, the Philippine Jesuit Fathers have always laid the chief emphasis on the study of the typhoons of the Philippine region, for these are not only the most interesting, but also the most dangerous of all meteorological phenomena in the Eastern Seas, and over the immediately adjacent land areas. The first report upon these typhoons was issued in 1897, under the title *Baguios ó Ciclónes Filipinos, Estudio teórico-práctico*, a quarto, paper-covered monograph of 307 pages, which was at once welcomed as the most complete discussion of the subject, and took a very prominent place in the literature of cyclonology. This book was translated into German by Dr. Paul Bergholz under the title *Die Orkane des fernen Ostens* (1900), and Dr. Robert H. Scott, formerly Secretary of the Meteorological Council of the Royal Society, translated Dr. Bergholz's translation into English (*The Hurricanes of the Far East*, 1901). Father José Algué, who wrote the original monograph of 1897, has now brought out a second, revised edition of this useful work, choosing the title, *The Cyclones of the Far East*, as showing more clearly the scope of the work, which really relates to a wider area than that of the Philippines alone.

The lapse of time between 1897 and 1904 has made possible the collection of abundant new data, not only from the Philippines themselves, but from the adjacent coasts, and these are embodied in the new edition, which is very fully illustrated, and is also bound. All the excellent characteristics of the first edition are here preserved, and many new things are added, so that the book before us is in reality almost a monograph on tropical cyclones as a whole—so full are the bibliographical references and discussions,—rather than on the storms of one special tropical district. The work is divided into four parts. Part I, *The Cyclones*, deals with the elements, origin, structure, pressure, rain and cloud areas, movements, tracks, frequency and classification. Part II, *Precursory Signs of Cyclones*, takes up the clouds, indications of cyclones given by clouds, cloud photography and weather forecasting, indications given by the direction of the wind and by the barometer, as well as by the ocean-swell, and by other indirect signs. In Chapters VI and VII Father Algué's very ingenious instrument, the barocyclonometer, is described and explained much more thoroughly than in the first edition. This is a combination of an aneroid barometer and of a cyclonometer, or wind disk, and when properly used, has been found to be of the greatest assistance in making forecasts of approaching cyclones, and in determining the location of the observer with reference to bearing and distance of the centre. One of these instruments was shown in the Philippine Weather Bureau exhibit at the St. Louis Fair. In Part III, *Typical Cyclones*, special storms are fully described and discussed, and part IV, which is new, *Notes on Cyclones of Interest to the Sailor*, deals with some practical rules for navigating in case of encountering a typhoon, and gives a list and descriptions of the ports of refuge which may be used by vessels during storms in the Far East, especially in the Philippine Archipelago. Other new features are a new classification of the cyclones of the Far East; a study of the frequency of cyclones in certain districts and months; the relation between the average motion of the higher clouds in the Northern Hemisphere and the general tracks of cyclones, and a discussion of some remarkable barometric minima observed during cyclones.

Taken altogether, *The Cyclones of the Far East* is a work which will be indispensable to all students of meteorology who go beyond

the very limited discussion of the ordinary text-book, and especially to mariners of all nations whose business takes them into those seas of the Far East, which are the home of the dreaded typhoon.
R. DeC. W.

Report on the Climate and Weather of Baltimore and Vicinity. By Oliver L. Fassig. Maryland Weather Service. Special Publication, Vol. II, Part 1a. 4to. Baltimore, 1904. Pp. 29–147, Figs. 38, Pls. VII.

In 1899 there was published, as Volume I of the Maryland Weather Service, the most elaborate report which has ever been issued by any State Weather Service in this country. In the Preface to that volume Professor W. B. Clark, of Johns Hopkins University, the Director of the Maryland Weather Service, said: "The present volume is the first of a series of reports dealing with the climatic features of Maryland. Much work has already been done in the preparation of the subsequent volumes, and they will follow from time to time as the investigations are completed." We now have before us Vol. II, Part 1a, a *Report on the Climate and Weather of Baltimore and Vicinity*, by Dr. Oliver L. Fassig, Section Director of the United States Weather Bureau, and also in charge of the instruction in Meteorology and Climatology at Johns Hopkins University, a man well equipped for such a task as he has here accomplished.

In his *Handbuch der Klimatologie*, Vol. I, Dr. Hann, the leading climatologist of the world, has enumerated the data which it is necessary to present in order that a complete account of the climate of any locality may be given. The list of these data is not a short one, and it has thus far been given in its entirety for comparatively few stations, and those in Europe. For this country, until the publication of Dr. Fassig's report on the climate of Baltimore, we had nothing approaching such completeness of climatic presentation. Our author has therefore blazed a new trail for himself, in so far as the United States are concerned, and he deserves, and will receive, the thanks of his fellow-workers in Meteorology and Climatology for the valued example which he has set, and which it is hoped may be followed in many other places. And Dr. Hann may well be gratified to see the lessons which he has taught in his invaluable *Handbuch* so well-learned and applied. One who is familiar with the *Klimatologie* will recognize the inspiration